CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	01 (11)
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1700387.014
Medium:	Computer Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	07 August 2017
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	04 August 2017

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image is a cartoon depicting a two characters from 'The Simpsons' television show committing sexual violence against another character. Despite the satirical nature of the image and its cartoon format, the humorous aspect is overwhelmed by the explicit, sexualised nature of the image. It is clear the image is intended for the sexual arousal of adults as well as humour. As such it presents the clear potential for attitudinal harm. There is a strong likelihood of injury to even an adult audience from the trivialisation of such behaviour and attitudes, which is likely to have a detrimental effect on wider society. The classification of objectionable interferes with the right to freedom of expression as affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is justifiable given the high risk of injury to the public good which cannot be adequately prevented by an age restriction.